

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN SEPTEMBER 2006

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in September was 2.47 million metric tons (Mt), which was 12% lower than in August according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Total production for January through September was 19% lower than in the same period of 2005.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in September was 2.46 Mt, a 7% decrease from that of August. Total phosphate rock used in January through September was 17% lower than in same period of 2005. U.S. producer stocks were about the same as in August.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and data from the Moroccan producer

because Census suppressed some phosphate rock import data for Morocco. The Moroccan producer supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported by the United States. In addition, Census trade data were not available for the current month. Table 4 shows exports of phosphate rock from Morocco.

Apparent consumption for 2006 was estimated to be 32.5 Mt, using annualized use data plus estimated imports. Domestic apparent consumption for 2005 was 37.8 Mt. Apparent consumption was based on phosphate rock used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 1  
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks <sup>2</sup>
2005:			
January-September	28,500	27,200	XX
September	3,250	2,940	7,040
October	2,850	2,670	7,280
November	2,490	2,730	7,000
December	2,380	2,580	6,780
January-December	36,200	35,200	XX
2006:			
January	2,520	2,670	6,620
February	1,970	2,230	6,370
March	2,570	2,370	6,500
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,540 <sup>r</sup>	2,590 <sup>r</sup>	6,600 <sup>r</sup>
August	2,800 <sup>r</sup>	2,660 <sup>r</sup>	6,750 <sup>r</sup>
September	2,470	2,460	6,750
Total	23,000	22,600	XX

<sup>r</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2  
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value <sup>2</sup>
<b>2005:</b>		
January-August	1,090	47,200
August	66	1,810
September	158	5,520
October	159	6,290
November	195	7,200
December	112	4,120
January-December	1,780	72,100
Total year <sup>3</sup>	2,630	107,000
<b>2006:<sup>4</sup></b>		
January	170	7,100
February	74	2,180
March	193	9,460
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
August	129	4,530
Total	1,200	57,300

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

<sup>3</sup>Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

<sup>4</sup>Data for the current month were not available at time of publication.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3  
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004	2005	2006 <sup>e, 2</sup>
<b>Marketable production:</b>			
Florida and North Carolina	30.3	W	W
Idaho and Utah	5.4	W	W
Total	35.7	36.2	30.7
<b>Sold or used by producers:</b>			
Florida and North Carolina	30.8	W	W
Idaho and Utah	5.0	W	W
Total	35.8	35.2	30.2
Yearend stocks	7.0	6.8	6.7
Exports reported by producers	--	--	--
Average value per ton	--	--	--
Imports for consumption <sup>e</sup>	2.5	2.6	2.3
Average value per ton	\$36.50	\$40.87	NA
Apparent consumption <sup>e, 3</sup>	38.3	37.8	32.5

<sup>e</sup>Estimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

<sup>2</sup>Annualized data.

<sup>3</sup>Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports minus exports.

TABLE 4  
MOROCCAN  
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS<sup>1</sup>  
JANUARY - SEPTEMBER

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Argentina	38
Australia	305
Austria	93
Bangladesh	56
Belgium	248
Brazil	561
Bulgaria	174
Colombia	60
Croatia	244
France	190
Germany	74
India	963
Indonesia	632
Iran	75
Italy	66
Japan	130
Korea, Republic of	308
Lithuania	352
Mexico	648
New Zealand	443
Norway	28
Pakistan	166
Peru	87
Philippines	113
Poland	721
Portugal	46
Romania	98
Spain	1,090
Taiwan	53
Turkey	268
United States	1,810
Venezuela	80
Total	10,200

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--  
Casablanca, Morocco.